

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 JIDDA 03708 251513Z

54

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 /014 W
----- 062594

R 251410Z MAY 75
FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA
TO SECDEF WASHDC
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1342
SANG-PMO RIYADH

C O N F I D E N T I A L JIDDA 3708

FOR : DEPSECDEF CLEMENTS

E.O.: 11652: GDS
TAGS: MARR, MASS, SA
SUBJ: STATUS OF SANG PROJECT MANAGER

1. IT HAS COME TO MY ATTENTION THAT COLONEL LAWRENCE, BECAUSE OF HIS PROMOTION TO BRIGADIER GENERAL EFFECTIVE 1 JUNE, MAY BE GIVEN OTHER DUTIES IMMEDIATELY, OR, IF ALLOWED TO STAY, MAY NOT BE PERMITTED TO COMPLETE A TWO-YEAR TOUR AS SANG PROJECT MANAGER.

2. EITHER DEVELOPMENT WOULD BE DISTURBING. I WENT TO GREAT EFFORT TO SMOOTH THE TRANSITION BETWEEN COLONEL MORT AND COLONEL LAWRENCE. I POINTED OUT THAT COLONEL LAWRENCE HAD BEEN PERSONALLY SELECTED BY YOU AND THAT YOU BELIEVED HE WAS THE BEST MAN FOR THE JOB. I BELIEVE COLONEL LAWRENCE HAS BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE GUARD AND HAS TAKEN HOLD RAPIDLY. HE DOES INDEED SEEM TO BE EXCELLENT, AND I BELIEVE HE SHOULD STAY ON FOR THE FULL TWO YEARS. AS YOU KNOW, CONTINUITY OF LEADERSHIP IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT IN SAUDI ARABIA, WHERE PERSONAL ACCEPTANCE IS CRITICAL TO JOB PERFORMAMANCE.

3. IF A TWO YEAR ASSIGNMENT IS NOT POSSIBLE, THEN (AS THE LESSER OF TWO EVILS) I WOULD PREFER TO HAVE COLONEL LAWRENCE REMOVED IMMEDIATELY. THIS WOULD HAVE SERIOUS EFFECTS IN THE SHORT TERM, BUT WOULD BE LESS DANAGING IN MY VIEW THAN TO HAVE TO CHANGE PROJECT MANAGERS A YEAR FROM NOW.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 JIDDA 03708 251513Z

4. COLONEL LAWRENCE'S RETENTION WOULD ALSO RAISE THE QUESTION OF THE RANK OF HIS REPLACEMENT. I AM PLEASED THAT THE NATIONAL GUARD WOULD HAVE A GENERAL OFFICER AS ITS PROGRAM MANAGER, BUT IF HE IS TO BE SUCCEEDED BY A COLONEL I BELIEVE THE GUARD WOULD REACT WITH THE VIEW THAT THE US WAS AT THAT TIME DOWNGRADING THE IMPORTANCE OF THE GUARD PROGRAM. THUS IT WOULD BE NECESSARY THAT HE BE REPLACED BY A GENERAL OFFICER.

5. THIS MATTER REQUIRES IMMEDIATE ACTION, PARTICULARLY SINCE PRINCE ABDULLAH IS SCHEDULED TO HOST A PINNING-ON PROMOTION CEREMONY FOR COLONEL LAWRENCE ON 1 JUNE. IF COLONEL LAWRENCE IS NOT GOING TO REMAIN IN THE JOB, THE CEREMONY SHOULD NOT BE HELD. SINCE PRINCE ABDULLAH PERSONALLY OFFERED TO HOST IT (AN UNPRECEDENTED MOVE) COLONEL LAWRENCE CANNOT REASONABLY CANCEL OUT. THEREFORE I SUGGEST, IF HE IS NOT TO REMAIN ON THE JOB, HE BE CALLED OUT OF THE COUNTRY, PERHAPS FOR CONSULTATIONS, BEFORE THAT DATE.

AKINS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY PERSONNEL, NATIONAL GUARD
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: woolflhd
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975JIDDA03708
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750184-0136
From: JIDDA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750518/aaaaaqel.tel
Line Count: 79
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: woolflhd
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19 AUG 2003 by WorrelSW>; APPROVED <22 DEC 2003 by woolflhd>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: STATUS OF SANG PROJECT MANAGER
TAGS: MARR, MASS, SA, (LAWRENCE)
To: DOD
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006